

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 are amended.

In section 1 on page 2, the Office Action objects to the drawings because of the inadvertent duplicative use of reference character 7. Applicants attach hereto replacement sheets with corrected Figs. 1, 3, 9 and 11 changing the reference character for the aluminum thin film from 7 to 8. The specification is also amended to reflect this change in the reference character for the aluminum thin film.

In section 2 on page 3, the Office Action objects to the drawings with respect to reference character 3-3. Page 17 of the specification is amended to clarify the correspondence between the original written description and that which is shown in the original figures.

It is respectfully submitted that the drawings are now in compliance with all applicable rules. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the objections to the drawings specified in sections 1 and 2 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action be withdrawn.

In section 3 on page 4, the Office Action suggests a new title for the invention. The title is amended exactly as suggested by the Office Action.

In section 4 on page 4, the Office Action requests a specified correction to the specification. The specification is amended exactly as requested by the Office Action.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification detailed in sections 3 and 4 on page 4 of the Office Action be withdrawn.

In section 5 on pages 4-11, the Office Action rejects claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,777,403 to Stephenson. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 3 and 5, from which claims 2, 4 and 6 depend, recite that the first screen and the second screen are located between the proximal ends of the first dynode

and the second dynode in a direction perpendicular to the tube axial direction. Claim 7, from which claim 8 depends, recites the same structural orientation for the first focusing electrode and the second focusing electrode.

Thus, a main object of the claimed subject matter is to provide a photomultiplier for multiplying electrons emitted from a photocathode with efficiency. In order to achieve the object, a photomultiplier tube of the claimed subject matter is characterized by focusing electrode having: a flat plate, a first screen, and a second screen, the first and second screens being located between a proximal end of a first dynode and the proximal end of a second dynode in a direction perpendicular to a tube axial direction. With the above structure, electrons emitted from the photocathode are efficiently guided from the first dynode to the second dynode, and from the second dynode to the third dynode without causing a loss of electrons.

Stephenson discloses a photomultiplier having a plurality of dynodes. A focusing electrode seems to have projections which extend axially and are referred to as the first and second screens by the Office Action. However, each of the screens is located behind dynodes. In other words, the screen is not located between the first dynode and the second dynode in a direction perpendicular to an axial direction. Accordingly, Stephenson does not disclose, teach or suggest the subject matter recited in the rejected claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-8 as being anticipated by Stephenson be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of pending claims 1-8 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MRW/rle

Attachment:
Replacement Sheets

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1, 3, 9 and 11 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1, 3, 9 and 11.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets